



## SC Department of Employment and Workforce

## NEWS RELEASE

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## **South Carolina's Employment Situation July 2011**

*Unemployment rate climbs; Manufacturing continues to gain jobs*

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose from 10.5 percent in June to 10.9 percent in July. The increase in the number of people moving to the state, combined with a significant increase in new graduates flooding the job market in search of first-time careers, has led to the growth of South Carolina's labor force.

The state's labor force grew by approximately 4,100 from June to July, which is the largest increase this year. With an already elevated number of jobseekers competing in the job market, these additions have increased the total number of unemployed by 10,360 to 236,420 for July.

While July 2011 nonfarm payroll employment fell by 7,200 (unadjusted), this decline was far less than the usual June-to-July average loss of 18,000. However, the total July 2011 jobs count is 24,600 higher than a year ago. Private, non-governmental jobs had an over-the-month increase of 6,400 and are above a year ago by 38,000. Only two industry sectors reported decreases in July. Government registered the sharpest decline at 13,600, while Financial Activities saw a modest decrease of 200.

Employment expansions in several industry sectors helped to temper the declines. With retailers making an early push on back-to-school sales and with the tourist season in full swing, the largest gains were reported in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+1,700) and Leisure and Hospitality (+1,400). Education and Health Services also reported a healthy gain of 1,300.

The Manufacturing sector continues to churn out more jobs, registering growth for the sixth consecutive month. Manufacturing employment went up 1,800 from a month ago and up 10,700 from a year ago. Healthy gains in Durable Goods are the primary factor behind the Manufacturing advances. Another positive sign includes an increase in the average hourly earnings in Manufacturing to \$16.63, up from \$16.36 in June.

The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online Index reflected that nationally, there was a decline in the number of ads posted by employers in July. The number of online ads in South Carolina fell by 1,500 to 47,100 ads from June to July, with neighboring states experiencing similar trends: Georgia's on-line ads were down 16,500, Alabama dropped 2,700 and Florida lost 600. When comparing the number of jobseekers with the number of advertised job openings for July, South Carolina had five potential jobseekers for every online job opening.

"As people hear about job announcements in South Carolina, they are re-entering the labor force searching for employment opportunities," said John Finan, executive director of the SC Department of Employment and Workforce. "While the unemployment rate ticked up this month, it is a promising sign that those people once

discouraged about seeking work are now joining the labor force. However, competition in the state is tough as there are currently more job seekers than job openings. We feel confident as the number of new job announcements come to fruition; our state unemployment rate will again begin to trend down.”

# **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY**

Statewide

July 2011

Jobs by Industry	July 2011	June 2011	July 2010	June 2011 to July 2011		July 2010 to July 2011	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Total Nonfarm Employment</b>	1,833,500	1,840,700	1,808,900	-7,200	-0.39%	24,600	1.36%
Natural Resources and Mining	4,200	4,200	4,000	0	0.00%	200	5.00%
Construction	78,200	77,900	79,600	300	0.39%	-1,400	-1.76%
Manufacturing	218,000	216,200	207,300	1,800	0.83%	10,700	5.16%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	353,400	351,700	345,700	1,700	0.48%	7,700	2.23%
Information	25,700	25,600	26,100	100	0.39%	-400	-1.53%
Financial Activities	97,600	97,800	98,500	-200	-0.20%	-900	-0.91%
Professional and Business Services	223,700	223,600	216,300	100	0.04%	7,400	3.42%
Education and Health Services	216,900	215,600	211,000	1,300	0.60%	5,900	2.80%
Leisure and Hospitality	228,200	226,800	218,600	1,400	0.62%	9,600	4.39%
Government	319,600	333,200	333,000	-13,600	-4.08%	-13,400	-4.02%

**Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted**

## **NONFARM EMPLOYMENT**

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

July 2011

INDUSTRY TITLE	July 2011	June 2011	July 2010	June 2011 to July 2011		July 2010 to July 2011	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Statewide</b>	1,833,500	1,840,700	1,808,900	-7,200	-0.39%	24,600	1.36%
Anderson MSA	60,300	62,500	58,200	-2,200	-3.52%	2,100	3.61%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	290,700	290,600	285,000	100	0.03%	5,700	2.00%
Columbia MSA	342,500	344,500	340,300	-2,000	-0.58%	2,200	0.65%
Florence MSA	83,000	82,100	81,400	900	1.10%	1,600	1.97%
Greenville MSA	296,700	297,300	294,100	-600	-0.20%	2,600	0.88%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	130,300	127,700	124,400	2,600	2.04%	5,900	4.74%
Spartanburg MSA	113,700	117,100	115,500	-3,400	-2.90%	-1,800	-1.56%
Sumter MSA	37,100	37,600	36,600	-500	-1.33%	500	1.37%

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE**  
**(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

AREA	July 2011				June 2011				July 2010			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)
Marion County	12,851	10,286	2,565	20.0	12,747	10,202	2,545	20.0	12,859	10,214	2,645	20.6
Allendale County	3,436	2,757	679	19.8	3,414	2,753	661	19.4	3,409	2,767	642	18.8
Marlboro County	11,642	9,531	2,111	18.1	11,684	9,550	2,134	18.3	11,984	9,575	2,409	20.1
Orangeburg County	42,355	34,844	7,511	17.7	40,923	34,680	6,243	15.3	41,518	34,884	6,634	16.0
Bamberg County	6,624	5,466	1,158	17.5	6,466	5,440	1,026	15.9	6,542	5,487	1,055	16.1
Union County	11,316	9,336	1,980	17.5	11,331	9,385	1,946	17.2	11,506	9,389	2,117	18.4
Chester County	14,649	12,143	2,506	17.1	14,714	12,204	2,510	17.1	14,834	12,139	2,695	18.2
Barnwell County	8,837	7,334	1,503	17.0	8,773	7,330	1,443	16.4	8,915	7,358	1,557	17.5
Calhoun County	7,052	5,926	1,126	16.0	6,731	5,922	809	12.0	6,719	5,934	785	11.7
Clarendon County	13,218	11,127	2,091	15.8	13,184	11,119	2,065	15.7	13,013	11,113	1,900	14.6
Dillon County	13,908	11,734	2,174	15.6	13,824	11,668	2,156	15.6	13,973	11,764	2,209	15.8
McCormick County	3,365	2,841	524	15.6	3,344	2,831	513	15.3	3,358	2,855	503	15.0
Lancaster County	30,479	25,821	4,658	15.3	30,600	25,920	4,680	15.3	30,640	25,786	4,854	15.8
Hampton County	8,170	6,964	1,206	14.8	8,140	6,956	1,184	14.5	8,095	6,965	1,130	14.0
Lee County	8,460	7,210	1,250	14.8	8,423	7,175	1,248	14.8	8,463	7,242	1,221	14.4
Williamsburg County	16,449	14,111	2,338	14.2	16,397	14,031	2,366	14.4	16,352	14,050	2,302	14.1
Colleton County	18,063	15,521	2,542	14.1	17,996	15,488	2,508	13.9	17,778	15,471	2,307	13.0
Cherokee County	24,670	21,206	3,464	14.0	24,849	21,286	3,563	14.3	24,909	21,207	3,702	14.9
Chesterfield County	18,765	16,132	2,633	14.0	18,767	16,139	2,628	14.0	19,020	16,113	2,907	15.3
Darlington County	31,704	27,452	4,252	13.4	31,295	26,944	4,351	13.9	31,392	27,240	4,152	13.2
York County	110,865	96,124	14,741	13.3	112,558	97,746	14,812	13.2	113,564	96,090	17,474	15.4
Fairfield County	10,824	9,429	1,395	12.9	10,854	9,424	1,430	13.2	10,914	9,443	1,471	13.5
Abbeville County	11,049	9,636	1,413	12.8	11,107	9,673	1,434	12.9	10,999	9,570	1,429	13.0
Sumter County	46,118	40,462	5,656	12.3	46,316	40,592	5,724	12.4	45,922	40,282	5,640	12.3
Greenwood County	30,915	27,166	3,749	12.1	30,949	27,125	3,824	12.4	30,777	27,043	3,734	12.1
Laurens County	32,735	28,795	3,940	12.0	32,458	28,725	3,733	11.5	32,759	28,746	4,013	12.3
Spartanburg County	132,924	117,344	15,580	11.7	135,270	119,496	15,774	11.7	135,283	119,528	15,755	11.6
Florence County	64,925	57,425	7,500	11.6	63,857	56,364	7,493	11.7	64,134	56,982	7,152	11.2
Oconee County	31,490	27,886	3,604	11.4	31,398	27,884	3,514	11.2	31,542	27,780	3,762	11.9
Newberry County	18,486	16,395	2,091	11.3	18,508	16,393	2,115	11.4	18,487	16,449	2,038	11.0
Georgetown County	31,267	27,855	3,412	10.9	31,195	27,672	3,523	11.3	31,164	27,594	3,570	11.5
Jasper County	10,642	9,497	1,145	10.8	10,650	9,485	1,165	10.9	10,528	9,460	1,068	10.1
Anderson County	86,230	77,136	9,094	10.5	88,512	78,781	9,731	11.0	85,109	75,640	9,469	11.1
Kershaw County	29,962	26,818	3,144	10.5	30,069	26,804	3,265	10.9	30,034	26,858	3,176	10.6
Richland County	183,116	163,865	19,251	10.5	183,084	163,775	19,309	10.5	182,243	164,105	18,138	10.0
Berkeley County	83,816	75,218	8,598	10.3	83,429	74,680	8,749	10.5	82,625	74,234	8,391	10.2
Pickens County	57,752	51,916	5,836	10.1	57,558	51,789	5,769	10.0	57,783	51,826	5,957	10.3
Horry County	145,574	131,082	14,492	10.0	142,309	127,363	14,946	10.5	141,333	126,956	14,377	10.2
Beaufort County	66,540	60,208	6,332	9.5	66,540	60,135	6,405	9.6	65,761	59,978	5,783	8.8
Charleston County	181,979	164,978	17,001	9.3	181,209	163,798	17,411	9.6	179,516	162,820	16,696	9.3
Edgefield County	11,057	10,029	1,028	9.3	11,205	10,074	1,131	10.1	11,297	10,228	1,069	9.5
Dorchester County	66,321	60,209	6,112	9.2	65,907	59,778	6,129	9.3	65,247	59,422	5,825	8.9
Saluda County	8,974	8,144	830	9.2	9,007	8,140	867	9.6	8,970	8,156	814	9.1
Greenville County	225,340	204,946	20,394	9.1	225,544	204,446	21,098	9.4	225,543	204,593	20,950	9.3
Aiken County	76,540	69,655	6,885	9.0	77,035	69,964	7,071	9.2	77,449	71,037	6,412	8.3
Lexington County	134,346	122,775	11,571	8.6	134,480	122,708	11,772	8.8	133,990	122,955	11,035	8.2
Charleston MSA	332,115	300,404	31,711	9.5	330,545	298,256	32,289	9.8	327,388	296,476	30,912	9.4
Columbia MSA	374,274	336,957	37,317	10.0	374,224	336,772	37,452	10.0	372,871	337,451	35,420	9.5
Florence MSA	96,629	84,877	11,752	12.2	95,152	83,308	11,844	12.4	95,526	84,222	11,304	11.8
Greenville MSA	315,827	285,657	30,170	9.6	315,560	284,960	30,600	9.7	316,084	285,165	30,919	9.8
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED												
South Carolina	2,161,655	1,925,231	236,424	10.9	2,157,513	1,931,449	226,064	10.5	2,160,145	1,922,824	237,321	11.0

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

County and single-county MSA's are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.